

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/IB2004/052410

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G01D5/244

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G01D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No
A	EP 0 704 679 A (SONY MAGNESCALE, INC; SONY PRECISION TECHNOLOGY INC) 3 April 1996 (1996-04-03) page 4, line 26 - page 5, line 20; figures 1,2	1,2
A	----- US 5 677 686 A (KACHI ET AL) 14 October 1997 (1997-10-14) cited in the application column 3, line 39 - line 54 column 8, line 65 - column 9, line 50 column 10, line 13 - column 11, line 5	1,2
A	----- US 6 566 860 B1 (LIN YINGJIE ET AL) 20 May 2003 (2003-05-20) the whole document ----- -/--	1,2

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex

### \* Special categories of cited documents

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

\*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

26 April 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

10/05/2005

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>US 5 463 393 A (HAVLICSEK ET AL)</p> <p>31 October 1995 (1995-10-31)</p> <p>abstract</p> <p>-----</p>	1,2

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/IB2004/052410

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			JP 8101045 A	16-04-1996
			DE 69502789 D1	09-07-1998
			DE 69502789 T2	01-10-1998
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